EDDIE BAZA CALVO Governor



RAY TENORIO Lieutenant Governor

Commission on Decolonization Minutes of July 11, 2012

Meeting was called to order on July 11, 2012 @ 3pm by Acting Chairman Sen. Rory Respicio.

A quorum was verified and the minutes of 4-24-12 commission meeting approved subject to correction.

Executive Director's statement touched on Atty. Julian Aguon's UN testimony at the C24 meeting and his meeting with the Chairman (C24)

and the Decolonization unit, wherein the guestion of Guam regarding its plight was discussed at length.

Also, about the populating of the Decolonization registry, where the number had doubled from last year to almost 6,000 Chamorro and the

number of registrars has increased from 10 last year to almost 80 in 2012.

Member Joe Garrido made a motion that any UN statement should require Commission approval and expressed his sentiments about some of the comments made, stating that in his opinion, it was misleading in how he feels about Guam's relationship with the United States.

Member Sen. Frank Blas Jr. also made a motion that any statement made by the commission to the UN is apolitical.

Both motions were unanimously approved by the Commission.

Speaker Won also made a motion that all testimonies be archived for Commission reference. Motion was also approved unanimously.

The E.D. then spoke about the status of DOI funding (\$250,000) stating that a budget request was sent to Asst. Sec. Tony Babura in April 2012 and was recently informed by Mr. Babauta that it didn't meet the request was more of a marketing proposal and not a budget request. E.D. stated that there were no criteria set forth in any discussions and he was instructed to inform what the money was to be used for and how much it would cost per function.

Further review with DOI staff revealed that the funding suggested the funding was in grant application form, which was totally surprising to the E.D. who will clarify the matter in a meeting with Mr. Babauta next Monday.

Speaker Won Pat suggested a letter to Congresswoman Bordallo was in order to clarify the matter.

Also, discussed was Title 5, Chapter 21 of the GCA, which needs to be amended in order to allow the Commission a way to raise funds for the plebiscite vote, in the way Guam Raceway Park, UOG, and DOE tax credits are applied. Speaker Won Pat made a motion that the Governor submit the bill to the Legislature, but only upon review by the

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Commission; motion approved.

The format for the Taskforces to follow regarding the position papers was discussed, and will continue next Commission meeting. The Commission's sub-committee on Education met and came up with a proposed standard format which discusses such items as immigration, culture, commerce and trade, foreign policy, and the environment. The format is necessary to make it convenient for voters to compare and contrast what the pros and cons of each status option are, and done in a manner that is uniform throughout all three position papers. There was agreement to table this matter by all members who also agreed that uniformity is needed.

Speaker Won Pat spoke about the next Decolonization forum scheduled later in the year. She desires to invite the negotiators for the CNMI, Belau, Marshal Islands, and FSM for the forum to share their experiences and give advice for our efforts. She would also like to conduct plebiscite votes in high schools after an education program has been given to them.

Acting Chairman Respicio motioned to have all taskforces participate in the forum by providing guidance in the development of each status option.

Finally, Mr. John Diaz submitted a handout entitled "Ocean Chrysalis" which spoke about the incident of Sella Bay; where DOD wanted to invoke eminent domain to take it, but Rear Admiral Morrison convince the military to take Orote Point instead.

The meeting was adjourned at 4pm.

Edward A. Alvarez
Executive Director